

Town Meeting Coordinating Committee Meeting
Minutes from Sept. 25, 2008

Call to Order: The meeting began at 5:17pm. All members were present: Harry Brooks, Nonny Burack, Carol Gray, Peggy Roberts, Judy Simpson, Mary Streeter and Aaron Hayden.

Minutes: Nonny moved, and Aaron seconded, to adopt the September 11, 2008 minutes with edits provided by members.

Posting of TMCC on Town Website: Mary is going to be meeting with Kris Pacunas tomorrow to learn about working on the TMCC page on the town website. Mary is putting together our information for the town website. She clarified how long the more senior members of the committee had been on the committee. Peggy has been on since 2005 and Harry has been on since 2003. Mary asked for suggestions for materials for the "Resources" section of the webpage. Some suggestions were pages on: How to get elected to town meeting; what vacancies there are by precinct for town meeting; how to run a precinct meeting; the mentoring form that was submitted in packets in the spring. Mary said Kris is putting all the documents for the entire website in one folder, then we could have a link to those documents from the TMCC webpage.

Aaron put the town website on the overhead screen so we could see how all documents are in the document center. We checked the TMCC website and the minutes and agendas are not yet up. Peggy will email Mary all the prior minutes for posting on the website.

Open Meeting Law Meeting of Sept. 15: At least 2-3 TMCC members went to the meeting. Peggy reminded the committee that all meetings had to be posted with the Town Clerk and that the committee is not allowed to communicate on TMCC business outside meetings, including serially. Subcommittee meetings have to be posted if there is a quorum of the committee. There was some discussion as to whether subcommittee meetings of only two TMCC members had to be posted and the conclusion was that they did not need to be posted.

TMCC liaison with the Select Board: Gerry Weiss said he would be willing to be the Select Board liaison with TMCC.

Letters to people who have had poor attendance: Judy is going to be drafting a letter to Town Meeting members who have had poor attendance. Aaron and Mary looked at the tally vote tool online to see how many people had missed 75% of meetings. There were about 10 people. Judy will send letters to these people. There was a brief discussion about whether we should send letters to people who had attended 50% of meetings or only 25%. It was decided we should begin conservatively, partly because we don't want to discourage people from being Town Meeting members.

Draft List of Warrant Articles: Because the warrant is fairly short, it was suggested that we ask the Select Board to skip the first scheduled day of Town Meeting on Nov. 5

since many people in Town Meeting and the clerks will be tired from the elections the day before. Carol moved that TMCC ask the Select Board to not begin Town Meeting on the day after the election. Nonny seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Planning of Events Before Nov. 5 Special Town Meeting:

- **Information Forum: Community Voices, Budget Choices – Tues., Oct. 21, 7pm-9pm, ACTV Studio**

Carol reported that the subcommittee on the forum had met and come up with a plan to have four people speaking about four major funding areas of the town: schools (perhaps asking the superintendent who handles finances); public safety or fire; public transportation and libraries. Peggy said DPW was a very important area, so we discussed combining public transportation with DPW & roads. Carol suggested the Voices/Choices committee have 10 minutes at the beginning of the forum to explain what they are working on and solicit assistance and that we also hand out forms to solicit information from the audience to give to Voices/Choices. Mary said the Voices/Choices people could do a hand-out at the meeting of their power point presentations from their Oct. 2 public meeting. People wanted to have call in capacity at ACTV. Harry said ACTV isn't set up for that but suggested we have two cell phones for call-ins. Aaron moved that the subcommittee's proposed format be adopted by TMCC with the understanding that the purpose is to educate Town Meeting in their work. Though there was not a formal vote, the sense of the group seemed to be in favor of this motion.

- **Warrant Review** – Oct. 23, 7:30pm-9:30pm, Middle School Auditorium (Item not reached.)
- **Bus Tour:** Harry and Carol said they thought there was enough on the warrant for a bus tour. Harry will work on reserving a bus for the date we had picked at a prior meeting, Sunday, October 16.
- **Precinct Meetings** (item not reached)

Scheduling of TMCC Meetings: The next TMCC meeting will be Wed., Oct. 1, 7pm.

Adjournment: Mary moved and Nonny seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:57pm.

Documents Distributed at the meeting:

1. Minutes from September 11, 2008.
2. Agenda for today's meeting.
3. Draft copy of zoning articles.
4. Email from Harrison Gregg: Tentative List of Articles for Town Meeting, dated 9/18/08.
5. Email from Jonathan Tucker describing zoning amendments.

Carol Gray, Secretary